

Brazil enters the nuclear age

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (A.P.) — Brazil officially joined the ranks of the world's nuclear-powered this weekend—but without the boldness and confidence that once caused the United States concern. The nation's first nuclear power station, called Angra I, began generating small amounts of energy Saturday night. The start-up came after five years of delays and cost overruns and amid new questions about potential radiation hazards. The inauguration of Angra I, located on a tropical beach about 90 miles west of Rio, was without the fanfare and official publicity usually given the opening of showcase development projects by the military-controlled government.

Volume 7, Number 1911

AMMAN, MONDAY MARCH 15, 1982 — JUMADA AL AWWAL 19, 1402

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

U.S. not ready for Mexican plan

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration is not likely to commit itself yet to a Mexican plan for settling Central American tensions over the guerrilla war in El Salvador, U.S. officials said Sunday. The plan was being explored at a second meeting within a week in New York on Sunday between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Mexico's Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda. U.S. officials said that while the administration wanted to give the proposal a thorough hearing, U.S. policy would probably remain unchanged before El Salvador's March 28 election for a constituent assembly. The plan of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo would seek to ease tension in the region through separate U.S. talks with Cuba and Nicaragua, which are accused by the United States of aiding the Salvadorean guerrillas.

Warsaw Pact war games under way

WARSAW (R) — The Soviet commander of the Warsaw pact armed forces, Marshal Viktor Kulikov, met Polish military chief Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski here Sunday after pact war games got under way in northern Poland. The official Polish news agency PAP said the meeting was connected with the current seven-day manoeuvres, which involve Polish, Soviet and East German forces and which are the first in the East bloc since last December's military takeover in Poland. Marshal Kulikov was last reported in Poland a few days before the Dec. 13 takeover, fuelling arguments in the West that the Kremlin virtually forced Gen. Jaruzelski to declare martial law.

Archbishop appeals for Walesa's release

WARSAW (R) — Poland's Roman Catholic Primate Archbishop Jozef Glemp Sunday appealed for the release of Lech Walesa, leader of the disbanded Solidarity trade union. The archbishop told a congregation of some 20,000 people at a workers suburb in Warsaw to pray for the release of Mr. Walesa, who has been interned and isolated since martial law was imposed in Poland three months ago. The primate said Mr. Walesa, a leader of the strike movement that gave birth to Solidarity, posed no threat to the authorities.

1 killed in Tripoli

BEIRUT (R) — One man was killed and two were injured in clashes between rival local groups Sunday in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, Beirut Radio said. The fighting ended when a joint security committee intervened, the radio added. The committee, drawn from local militias, was set up last month after three days of heavy fighting between pro- and anti-Syrian groups operating in the city.

Iraqi forces kill 45 Iranians

BEIRUT (R) — Iraqi forces said Sunday they killed 45 Iranians and wrecked seven trucks in the Gulf war on Saturday night and on Sunday, the Iraqi News Agency INA reported. INA said most of the fighting was near Deufel and Shush in the southern sector of the front in the 18-month-old war. The agency put Iraqi losses at nine dead and one truck destroyed.

Romanian president to visit China

VIENNA (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, the only Soviet bloc leader maintaining normal state and party relations with Peking, will visit China in the second half of next month, according to an official announcement in Bucharest on Saturday. It will be his fourth trip to China since 1964 and takes place as the Soviet Union is extending conciliatory peace feelers to its Communist foes in Peking. Romania, often noted for its independent stance, also seems to be moving closer to Moscow because of domestic economic problems.

Former U.S. president offers to meet Arafat

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Former U.S. President Gerald Ford offered Sunday to meet with Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat on one condition.

"Arafat has to recognise that such a meeting would mean an admission on his part that Israel would be recognised by him and his people," Mr. Ford told reporters prior to his departure after attending the first meeting in Kuwait of the Santa Fe board of directors, of which he is a member.

If such a conference with Mr. Arafat were to materialise, Mr. Ford said he would be representing only himself and not the U.S. government.

He expressed the belief that the U.S. "should participate in any future negotiations (on a comprehensive Mideast settlement)" but said this was also contingent on "simultaneous recognition" of Israel by the PLO.

"No major roadblocks will be facing similar future investments" in the U.S., Mr. Ford said.

Tehran clergyman killed as Khaddam holds talks

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Assassins posing as a holy man and his bodyguards lobbed a bomb into the car of a prominent pro-government clergyman in Tehran Sunday killing the victim and two others, the official Iranian news agency, IRNA reported.

Also Sunday, Syria's foreign minister held a second round of talks with his Iranian counterpart, Tehran Radin said.

IRNA said Hojatoleslam Mohammadi Saleh Hosni, one of the leading clergymen in the country's construction crusade, a volunteer organisation that builds roads and public utilities, and his two bodyguards were killed in a "terrorist attack on his car," in central Tehran.

The news agency, formerly called Pars, said the terrorists threw an incendiary device at Hosni's car and then fled in a get-away vehicle. The identity of the two guards is not yet known.

"The attacks follows a series of terrorist attacks in the city by counter-revolutionaries mainly attempting to destabilise the government with these attacks," IRNA said.

Leftist urban guerrillas have led an eight-month campaign of bombings and assassinations against the fundamentalist regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, which has left more than 1,000 Khomeini loyalists dead, according to officials.

Surinam's rulers appear to be firmly in control

PARAMARIBO, Surinam (R) — Surinam's leftist military rulers appeared to be firmly back in control of the country Sunday after crushing a coup attempt by right-wing soldiers and executing their leaders by firing squad.

Army strongman Lt.-Col. Daysi Bourtse told a press conference that the rebel leader, Sgt.-Maj. Wilfried Hawker, was shot at dawn on Saturday after a trial.

But informed sources said there was doubt that the 28-year-old

Time running out on solution to Sinai border dispute

TEL AVIV (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali arrives in Israel on Monday for talks aimed at resolving a border dispute which Israeli officials insist must be settled before next month's final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

Mr. Ali's three-day visit is primarily designed to determine the exact location of the border between the two countries, Israeli officials said.

With only six weeks to go before the last Israeli must evacuate the peninsula, Egypt and Israel are still divided over just where the demarcation line should run at 15 points along the 230-kilometre frontier.

Both sides say they have maps supporting their territorial claims along the desert border which separated the two countries until Israeli forces invaded Sinai during

the 1967 Middle East war. Israeli officials said the dispute must be resolved before Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai by April 26. Government sources said they expected a compromise to be found in time to avoid delaying the Sinai handover.

The line was established in 1906 by officials of the British and Ottoman empires. Israel and Egypt have produced old maps and accounts of the period to support their positions.

The main problem involves the Taba area south of the Israeli Red Sea port of Eilat. Egypt maintains the line must run along a ridge near the coast while Israel insists the border cuts through a line of palm trees 600 metres to the west.

The difference is significant because the narrow coastal strip is the site of a largely-completed 10-storey hotel.

The two countries have recently

reached agreement on a border dispute in the town of Rafah at the northern end of the demarcation line.

A decision was taken to erect a wall carving the city in two to avoid demolishing homes of Palestinian refugees.

Mr. Ali will arrive at midday Monday and will confer with Defense Minister Ariel Sharon. On Tuesday he is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Mr. Ali and Mr. Sharon will also chair a meeting of the joint committee set up to implement agreements on normalising the two countries relations following the 1979 Egypt-Israel peace treaty.

The two ministers are expected to hold a press conference before Mr. Ali returns to Cairo on Wednesday.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times جريدة يومية مستقلة عربية سياسية تصدر عن مؤسسة الصحافة الاردنية "الراي"

Sharon says Habib harms Israel

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon told a cabinet session Sunday that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib was tying Israel's hands and preventing Israel from "defending its citizens", Israel Radio reported. The radio quoted Mr. Sharon as telling a closed cabinet meeting that Mr. Habib's latest visit to the Mideast, meant to bolster a ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian commandos in Lebanon, had only harmed Israel. Mr. Sharon was quoted as saying that Mr. Habib had failed to show any achievements during his visit to the Mideast. The cabinet decided to call a special session to discuss Palestinian commando activity in Israel, a spokesman for Prime Minister Menachem Begin said. No date was set.

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West Bank leader starts Village League resignations

AMMAN (Agencies) — A member of an Israeli-sponsored Arab Village League in the occupied West Bank resigned Sunday following a warning from Jordan that it would bring treason charges against Palestinians associated with the leagues.

The mukhtar (headman) of Dir Samit village in the Hebron region, Adnan Abdul Al Fatah, informed the regional league he had resigned because of Jordan's order last week to Palestinians to leave the village associations within one month.

Jordan warned those who remained within the leagues with penalties ranging from death to confiscation of property.

The head of the Hebron region league, Mustafa Dudin, told reporters he expected at least five members of the leagues, whom he termed fervent Jordanian supporters, to resign shortly.

There are currently over 70 villages linked in five leagues. Israel provides large funds for development work and for the defense of members, whom it regards as more "moderate" than the mayors of the large West Bank towns who have declared their open support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Dudin said he did not believe the resignations were influenced by an unsuccessful murder attempt on Friday night of Fakhri Issa, a prominent supporter of the Ramallah area league.

Three people were arrested by Israeli security forces for the attack and a curfew was imposed on Birunya village. One of them was later released and the curfew lifted.

Arab unrest continued on the West Bank on Sunday when Arab youths hurled stones at passing Israeli cars in the Palestine refugee camp of Deheisha on the main Bethlehem-Hebron road.

Thirty residents, including two East Jerusalem Arab journalists, were arrested on claims of stone-throwing.

An army spokesman said later that Israeli security forces had imposed curfew on the refugee camp after stones were thrown at two passing buses.

Five passengers had been injured by flying glass, the spokesman added.

Here in Amman, the National Planning Council's (NCC's) West-Bank Affairs Committee Sunday discussed the subject of the Israeli-sponsored Village Leagues on the occupied West Bank. The session chaired by NCC member, Khaled Al Fayed was attended by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim.

The committee took certain decisions which will be referred to the council's regular session on Monday, an announcement here said.

Meanwhile, Haliou Mayar and member of the National Guidance Council in the occupied territories, Mohammad Milhem, has said that the Jordanian government warning to members of the "suspect" Village Leagues in the occupied West Bank is a firm and solid decision. Mr. Milhem was deported from his hometown, in the West Bank following Israeli charges that he sympathised with the PLO.

In a statement to the newspaper Al Dustour, published Sunday, Mr. Milhem said that members of the Village Leagues who will not quit would be considered as committing the crime of high treason.

The Director of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Office in Amman, Najib Al Ahmad, said Sunday that reports received from the occupied territories affirm that the recent Jordanian decision against the Village Leagues has begun to have its positive impact on these leagues.

And signs of division have already begun to appear in the ranks of these leagues.

Klibi in Iraq for Arab talks

BEIRUT (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi arrived in Baghdad Sunday on a short visit to Iraq, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

INA quoted Mr. Klibi as saying on arrival he would hold discussions with Iraqi officials on the present Arab situation.

In Beirut on Saturday, Mr. Klibi discussed with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis efforts to arrange a new meeting of the Arab League Follow-up Committee on

into a disaster for the Zionist state.

Editor Ahmad Abdul Rahman, who visited East Germany last week with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, said in a front-page editorial that any Israeli attack on Palestinian bases in South Lebanon would trigger enough Soviet and socialist support to break back of Israeli superiority.

Mr. Abdul Rahman said that superpower rivalry was bringing the PLO firmer commitments from the Soviet bloc.

He attributed the change in Soviet bloc attitudes to a feeling in Eastern Europe that tension in the Middle East was working in the interests of the United States.

French effort

France's ambassador in Beirut was quoted Sunday as saying that President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Israel may have dissuaded it from attacking South Lebanon.

The diplomat, Paul Marc Henry, told the English-language weekly Monday Morning that such an attack, which Lebanon says it fears, "would be the worst possible thing that could happen."

He added: "I would say that an aggression against South Lebanon would, in a sense, almost be an aggression against France."

The ambassador was quoted as saying that Mr. Mitterrand's recent talks in Israel "had a disastrous effect on the would-be aggressor" although an eventual Israeli operation against South Lebanon would probably be decided "regardless of any kind of political guarantee."

Mr. Henry said President Mitterrand planned a visit to Jordan but he gave no dates.

U.S. team starts Europe tour in Bonn

BONN (R) — A U.S. delegation led by Under-Secretary of State James Buckley arrived in Bonn Sunday on a mission designed to stiffen Western sanctions against the introduction of martial law in Poland.

A spokesman for the American embassy said Mr. Buckley and five or six senior U.S. officials will hold talks with Foreign Ministry officials on Monday on the future of East-West trade and Western credits to the East bloc.

The two ministers are expected to hold a press conference before Mr. Ali returns to Cairo on Wednesday.

The government says that since the start of the year, there have been 121 bombings in Lebanon, with 23 explosive devices dismantled by Mr. Bitar.

Lebanese are nervously asking each other who might be responsible. Officials of the Palestine

EMPLOYMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

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NATIONAL

Talks with Tunisia start

Jordan, Sudan initial workers' pact

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Sudan Sunday initiated an agreement regulating the flow of workers between the two countries.

Under the agreement, the Jordanian Ministry of Labour and the Sudanese Ministry of Interior will exchange information and expertise and cooperate in the employment of labour in both countries.

They will also take measures to facilitate such employment and will grant workers the right to remit their earnings to their home country in accordance with regulations in force in the country of employment, the agreement states.

The two sides also set up a six-member committee—three from each side—to follow up the implementation of the agreement and to take proper measures to settle any issues that might arise in the course of the implementation of the agreement.

The agreement was signed by Labour Minister Jawad Al Anani and the visiting Sudanese Minister of State for Internal Affairs Mohammad Othman Abu Saq.

The Sudanese minister arrived in Amman Sunday morning after participating in the 10th Arab labour conference in Baghdad. He left for Jeddah Sunday evening on his way home.

Meanwhile, Jordan and Tunisia

Sunday held talks on labour-related affairs and ways to encourage the flow of workers between them.

The talks were conducted by Dr. Anani and visiting Tunisian Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Mohammad Al Nasser, who discussed means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in labour affairs and explored the possibility of supplying the Jordanian market with Tunisian workers.

Such workers will be employed

on projects contained in the country's five-year development plan which can absorb considerable numbers of Arab workers, a labour ministry spokesman said.

Tunisia and Jordan early this month initialed an agreement for the employment of Jordanian and Tunisian workers in both countries.

The Tunisian minister, who arrived here from Baghdad early Sunday left for Muscat in the evening.

Arab City Day observed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Municipality on Monday celebrates Arab City Day, held this year under the theme "the protection of the environment is a national duty of every citizen."

The municipality has prepared a special programme for the occasion which includes enlightening the public on the subject through notices and slogans and explaining the role of the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) in this field.

As a contribution to this effort Jordan Television will Monday evening telecast a speech by ACO's Secretary General, Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Adasani, in which he is expected to call for more cooperation among Arab cities to achieve further development and progress.

He is also expected to call for the preservation of traditional Arab and Islamic architecture and the employment of this art in planning Arab cities.

Mr. Adasani will also announce that ACO will be awarding special prizes for distinguished architectural works and he will also review ACO's achievements and its relations with Arab and international organisations.

Also on the occasion Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni Sunday exchanged cables of good wishes with mayors of other Arab cities.

Meanwhile, Irbid Municipality announced that it will organise a public seminar and an open dialogue to mark ACO Day and Irbid municipal council's second anniversary.

A WORD OF THANKS

The Khouri and Farah families and their relatives in Jordan, occupied Palestine and Lebanon would like to extend a word of thanks and appreciation to all those who presented their condolences on the death of the late:

George Saleh Al Khouri

father of Riyad, Rami, Yasmine, and Raghida.



Jordan Dairy Company wins international trophy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A local firm has been awarded an outstanding international trophy for quality which has placed it on an impressive list including several world-famous industrial concerns.

The Spanish publishing house Editorial Office chose the Jordan Dairy Company (JDC) as the "most outstanding one in its branch during 1981," according to the firm's general manager, Mr. Samir Abu Duheis.

He told the Jordan Times the publishers, who put out the Spanish newspaper *Mercado Mundial*, awarded JDC the Tenth International Trophy for Quality, an award created "to distinguish a firm of every industrial branch whose services have deserved universal acclaim along the course of the year."

JDC now joins an exclusive array of international firms which have received the International Trophy for Quality. These include Fedders World Trade Corporation of the United States, Mannesmann Brothers and Karlshof Brewery of West Germany, the Belgian national airline Sabena, the French firms Peugeot and Michelin, British Caledonian Airways and Rolls Royce of Great Britain and the Hungarian foodstuffs exporter Globus.

In the Arab World only two

firms have won the trophy: Lafarge cement manufacturers of Morocco and Kuwait Alumina, Mr. Duheis said.

The trophy will be handed over on April 23 during a ceremony in Madrid, attended by Spanish government officials and figures from the economic and cultural sectors.



Early warning system tenders opened Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — Tenders submitted by 58 local and foreign companies to implement the early warning system project will be opened on Monday at the Civil Defence Directorate.

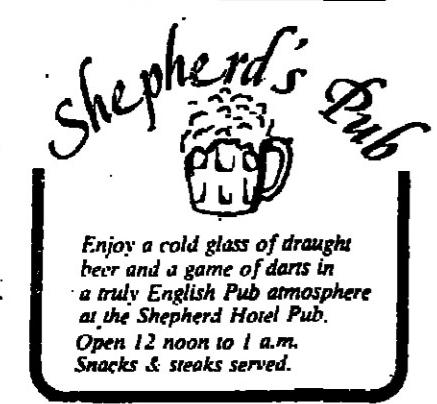
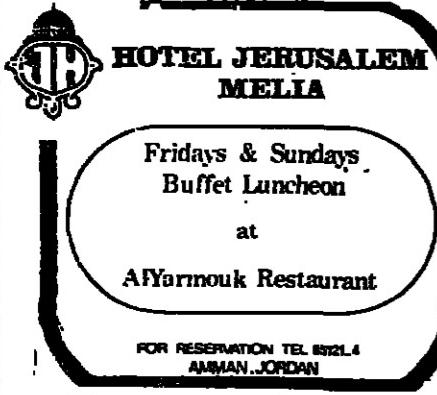
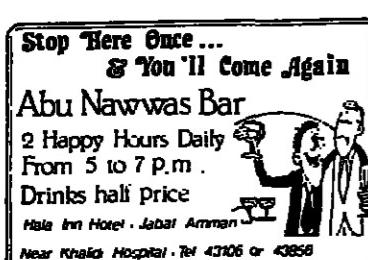
As part of the participation of the Jordanian industrial sector in implementing the project, a local tissue paper firm contributed JD 2,000, while a Jordanian alu-

minum manufacturer gave JD 2,000, including JD 1,000 in cash and JD 1,000 worth of the materials produced by the plant. A timber manufacturing company also contributed JD 1,000.

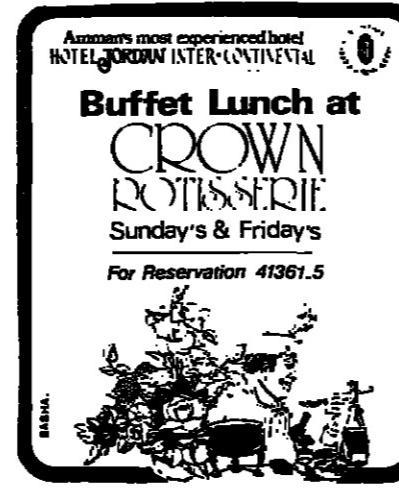
Sources at the Civil Defence Directorate said that the total cash and kind contributions for the project now total JD 229,000.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

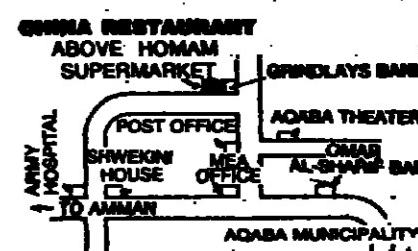
RESTAURANTS & BARS



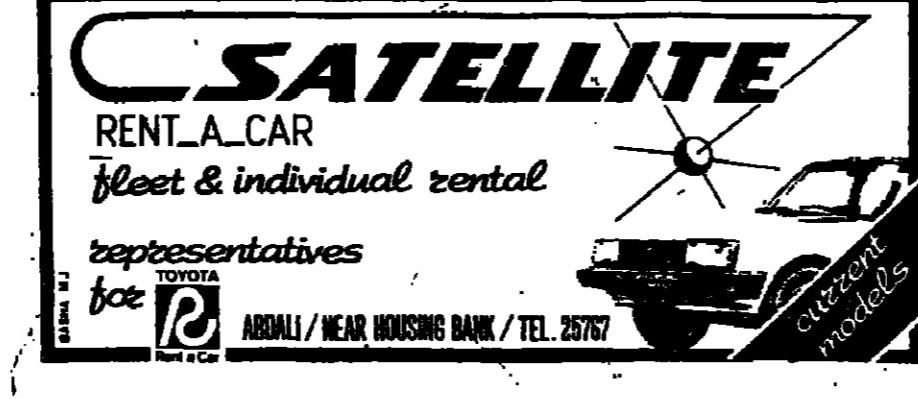
HOTELS



AQABA



MISCELLANEOUS



Iraqi-Jordanian firm keeps on trucking

By Steve Ross
Special to the Jordan Times

THE IRAQI-JORDANIAN Land Transport Company (IJLTC), established in 1980 to alleviate the acute shortage of transport at Aqaba, is now switching into overdrive. With capital recently doubled to \$50 million, 300 trucks in operation between Aqaba and Baghdad and another 450 units on the way, IJLTC expects by the end of 1982 to double its fleet. Then, with 1,500 trucks bearing its logo, the firm can move 9,000 tonnes a day to fulfill its stated purpose of meeting all of Iraq's import needs.

IJLTC Deputy Director Mahmoud Talhouni told the Jordan Times one way to double the company's fleet would be to pick up an option in the contracts it already has, allowing it to do so automatically. The two existing contracts are with a consortium led by the Austrian firm Steyr Daimler Puch, for 300 trailer trucks; and with West Germany's Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nuernberg (MAN), for 400. The extra 50 trucks now operating were provided by Steyr for temporary use pending the resolution of certain delays in the contract's implementation.

The other alternative for boosting IJLTC's fleet, Mr. Talhouni said, is to sign new contracts with other companies. The firm has been in touch with a number of potential suppliers, including Italian, West German, Swedish and French companies. Mr. Talhouni says there is a possibility of signing two completely new contracts by the end of the year.

The contracts signed and to be signed are not, however, for the simple supply of trucks. The contractor is also responsible for maintenance and operations for a set period, including the supply of drivers. Under this arrangement, IJLTC's first load moved on Oct. 15, 1981, and the company has so far hauled around 80,000 tonnes, Mr. Talhouni said.

MAN has already delivered its trucks, and is now operating most

of them. The delays in implementing Steyr's contract have been caused by problems with production and delivery, and also with a bank guarantee that IJLTC had to put up to cover the cost of trucks and equipment.

Steyr, which signed its contract in May 1981, originally led a consortium that also included the Phi-

ippines' Guimba Industrial Development and Construction Corporation (Guideco) for operations, and Nootebom of the Netherlands, to manufacture the trailers. Several changes have been made since then. Nootebom was found to be slow in delivering the trailers, and was replaced by Fruehauf of France. The client was also unhappy with the French firm, however, and finally West Germany's Krone, already providing the trailers for MAN's trucks, was brought into the Steyr contract.

Guideco Vice-President for Middle East Operations Ben Espulgar told the Jordan Times that Steyr itself had also been slow to deliver the trucks. All 300 units were supposed to arrive by Dec. 31 last year, he said; but according to the current schedule the Austrian firm will deliver 100 trucks each in the months of March, April and May.

Road cleared

THE WAY has been cleared for the Steyr contract's implementation by final agreement on the JD 9.6 million bank guarantee. Objections raised by Steyr's government and private financiers to the wording of the guarantee were resolved in January, and the guarantee became effective last month. The consortium, which had already put up a performance bond, received an advance payment of JD 1.5 million.

Mr. Espulgar said his firm had originally been approached to form the trucking consortium. The Filipino company had not, however, been able to put up a performance bond acceptable to IJLTC, and Steyr ended up leading the team. The consortium's contract, worth JD 18 million, stipulated the provision and operation of 300 trucks to Middle East specifications, with six axles and 320 horsepower. The team was to operate the units for 24 months, during which 1.5 million tonnes of cargo would be hauled between Aqaba and Baghdad.

Also covered in the contract

ever, says he expects this will have to be raised. All facilities are to revert to the ownership of IJLTC at the end of the contract period.

By contrast with the Steyr consortium, MAN has encountered few hitches in implementing its contract. The German firm was able to provide its 400 trucks quickly, and no performance bond was required. IJLTC also agreed to post no bank guarantee; but MAN got an advance payment of JD 2 million.

MAN, whose contract is worth JD 32 million, is to move 2.5 million tonnes in 24 months. In other respects its contract is the same as that of the Steyr-led consortium.

MAN is supervising the operation of its own trucks; but it is importing personnel, mainly from Far Eastern and Third World countries.

Although MAN has delivered all 400 of its trucks, only 250 of them are on the road. Mr. Talhouni blames this on a shortage of drivers; but MAN Gustavburg Commercial Manager Friedhelm Wollenhaupt told the Jordan Times the drivers were available. The problem is in obtaining work permits for them, he said.

Mr. Wollenhaupt cited two more problems: fuel and cargo.

There is often not enough fuel,

and trucks have to join long queues, he said. Cargo is supposed to come directly from IJLTC; but MAN finds itself obtaining freight from third parties. So far, Mr. Wollenhaupt said, there is enough cargo in Aqaba to keep the trucks moving; but "we are unable for the time being to fulfill our commitments due to these problems."

Mr. Espulgar also spoke of some difficulties in carrying out his firm's contract. In particular,

he said, it is not easy these days to find qualified drivers in the Philippines. Guideco is not the only firm trying to recruit Filipinos for well-paid Middle East trucking jobs, he noted. Guideco now has about 100 people working on the IJLTC contract, its first job outside the Philippines. Mr. Espulgar says he expects to have 500 people once Steyr's 300 trucks are in operation.

Baghdad stations and the three pitstops along the route.

The company will be able, once those contracts are implemented, to put roughly 225 trucks on the road every day. With the Aqaba-Baghdad journey taking six days, this allows for 10 per cent of the 1,500-strong fleet to be off the road for maintenance. The loads will average around 40 tonnes, which gives a total tonnage of 9,000 tonnes a day. The traffic is mostly in the Aqaba-Baghdad

direction; there are certain export

contracts, however. The company, which now has a contract to carry 50,000 tonnes of dates from Baghdad to the port, expects soon to sign one for 500,000 tonnes of the same commodity.

The MAN units are licensed to take 42 tonnes; but the truckers habitually overload their vehicles. Mr. Talhouni says they are now sometimes taking as much as 60 tonnes in a truck, because of the shortage of transport. Guideco's 50 operational trucks, rated for 30-35 tonnes, take up to 45; Mr.

Espulgar says the drivers "always try to overload" their trucks.

Such overloading, while clearly a necessity in view of the transport situation, is a worrisome one. Exceeding the axle load contributes to what is already a serious problem: deterioration of the road surface. The truckers admit this is a problem, but express more concern at the amount of traffic on the road. Both these problems should be alleviated by desert road improvement projects already under way.

Easing the way for trucks

THE STATE of the Desert Highway's surface, and traffic conditions there, are notorious. The government, however, is aware of the problem, and is doing something about it. The total cost of current projects to upgrade and improve the road from Aqaba all the way to the Iraqi border, including a 16-kilometre new highway to bypass Zarqa city, is not less than JD 90 million," according to the Public Works Ministry's director of major highway projects Ahmad Attiyeh.

Mr. Attiyeh told the Jordan Times that the section of the road between Azraq Oasis, in the northeastern desert, and the Iraqi frontier had recently been completed as a two-lane single carriageway road. The section between Azraq and the H5 station was completed in 1979, he said; the H4-H5 link started in 1981, and the road from H4 to the border was done in 1980. Since this stretch of road carries only traffic that is bound specifically for Iraq, its upgrading into a four-lane highway is not foreseen in the near future. But the design will be upgraded to handle heavy traffic; and Mr. Attiyeh said a tender for this purpose would be awarded soon.

Ministry of Public Works Under-Secretary Akram Sunna described work on the Amman to Aqaba road in terms of four sections, at varying stages of completion. The road between Ma'an and Aqaba will be made into a four-lane highway,

he said, and consultants would be asked to tender for the job of studying this project "maybe within a few weeks."

The Ma'an to Amman link he spoke of in three roughly equal sections, on which work is much more advanced. The section from Amman to the village of Suwaqa is under study for conversion into a four-lane highway, by the local consultant firm Jouzy and Partners. The Suwaqa to Al Hasa section is already under construction as a four-lane road, by Retired Servicemen's Engineering (Ketsur) of Taiwan, with designs by the local Rugh Al Handasa. And the Hasa to Ma'an section, des-

igned by the local Arabtech, is under construction by Massar Engineering Establishment of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Attiyeh explained that the Suwaqa to Ma'an section, although now being built as a four-lane dual carriageway, could easily be further upgraded in the future to six lanes. All grading, culverts and other preparation had been done with this in mind, he said, and all that remained would be the laying of asphalt for the extra two lanes.

The Amman-Aqaba and Azraq-Iraq sections are being linked by another road now under construction, from the Amman-area town of Juweideh through Muwaqqar to Azraq. The Yugoslav firm Partizanskiput is building this section, with the American Wilbur Smith and Associates as consultant.

Considering the importance of these road projects to Iraq's economy, that country has been willing and ready to support them with financial assistance. Mr. Attiyeh said two recent Iraqi road loans totalled 10.5 million Iraqi dinars, including support for the specific project of the Zarqa bypass.

This new road will allow trucks to pass from south to north without having to go through Zarqa itself. Still under design by Associated Consulting Engineers of Athens in association with the local Subhi Engineering Office, the link was originally estimated to cost about JD 4.5 million. Mr. Attiyeh said that after certain design changes and delays, it now looked more like JD 6.6 million.

One more project to ease the way for trucks through Jordan is also in the making; but Mr. Attiyeh said it might not be finished for more than five years. It is a "shortcut" link directly between Suwaqa and the Desert Highway to Azraq, which would enable drivers to avoid urban centres entirely. The ministry is about to tender for the design of this highway, which could cost about JD 10 million, Mr. Attiyeh said.

Turkish Red Crescent aide due Monday, trade minister to start visit March 27

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish Red Crescent Society President Kemal Demir is due here Monday for a six-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JRCS).

During the visit, Dr. Demir will hold talks with Health Minister Zuheir Malhas and JRCS President Ahmad Abu Qura and other officials on bolstering cooperation between the Jordanian and Turkish Red Crescent societies.

A special programme has been prepared for Dr. Demir and his delegation. It includes visiting archaeological sites and looking into JRCS activities.

Also it was announced here Sunday that Turkey's Minister of Trade Kemal Cantur will arrive in Amman on March 27 at the head of an official delegation for a visit to Jordan expected to last several days.

The Turkish delegation will hold talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour and other officials on ways of promoting trade relations between Jordan and Turkey and will ex-

lore the possibility of launching joint economic ventures, as well as the import of Turkish food commodities into Jordan, the announcement said.

Mr. Cantur is expected to visit other ministries and the National Planning Council, the announcement added.

Butros off for meeting on informatics

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Director Albert Butros left for Italy Sunday at the start of a tour that will also take him to Tunisia and France.

Dr. Butros said that he will take part in a special meeting on informatics to open in Rome Monday which is organised by the Inter-governmental Bureau for Informatics in cooperation with the Arab Thought Forum and the Arab Development Fund.

According to Dr. Butros, subjects connected with the employment of information, particularly in agriculture, will be discussed at the meeting.

Dr. Butros is also to take part in a meeting of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation advisory committee, which will open in Tunis early next week. On the committee are heads of nine Arab scientific research centres. Dr. Butros said.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Jordan, U.K. exchange loan memos

AMMAN (Petra) — Britain and Jordan Sunday exchanged memos of an agreement for an £8 million British loan to Jordan to help finance a number of development projects, included in the current five-year development plan. They fall in the water, electricity and sewerage sectors. The agreement was signed for Jordan by National Planning Council President Hanna Odah and for the United Kingdom by British Ambassador to Jordan Alan Bedford Urwick.

Mensah ends 5-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Assistant Chairman of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and former Benin Minister of Agriculture, Moise Mensah, left Amman on Sunday at the end of a five-day visit to Jordan during which he met with several high-ranking officials of the National Planning Council (NPC), the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACR) and the Agricultural Marketing Corporation (AMC). Mr. Mensah also visited several areas in the Jordan Valley where he heard an explanation on the projects being implemented by the JVA.

Bdoul bedouins to have own village

AMMAN (Petra) — The Bdoul bedouin tribe will be housed in a newly-built village to be called Umm Saïoun near Petra by the end of this year, according to Yusef Al 'Alami, director of the Petra Tourist Development Project. He said the village, expected to cost JD 300,000 will include 100 housing units. The village is designed in a manner reminiscent of the caves found in the ancient Nabataean city, where the Bdoul tribe now lives. Mr. Alami said. He added that the project is intended to resettle the bedouins outside the historic city with the purpose of preserving its archaeological treasures.

Masri adds departments to his ministry

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works Awni Al Masri announced Sunday the formation of three departments at his ministry in line with its administrative structure for 1982. According to the minister, one of the departments will handle Ministry of Health building projects, the second those of the Ministry of Education and the third those of all other government departments.

Wadi Seer get JD 90,000 loan

WADI SEER (J.T.) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani, the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils, has approved a JD 90,000 loan for Wadi Seer Municipality. Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Sunday. The paper quoted Wadi Seer Mayor Husni Sobar, who signed the loan agreement Saturday, as saying the loan will be used for completing the Suweifeh commercial complex.

GPs to organise medical day Friday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Association of General Practitioners in Jordan (AGP) will organise its second medical day, to be called "The Child's Day", on Friday in cooperation with Dar Al Dawa pharmaceutical firm. The day-long programme includes seminars and lectures in modern medical sciences and the diagnosis and treatment of children diseases. Taking part in the programme will be more than 350 Jordanian physicians representing various specialisations and organisations, an AGP announcement said.


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WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

* Art by students of the National Orthodox School, at the Alia Art Gallery. (Ends today).

* A Deck of Cards, paintings by contemporary British artists on the theme of playing cards, at the British Council daily from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Film

* Gigi, at the American Centre at 7 p.m.

ACOR lecture

* Antoniuzzo Romano — a Newly-Discovered Master of the Renaissance, by Mrs. Virginia Ahrens, at the American Centre of Oriental Research at 7:45 p.m. In collaboration with the Italian Embassy.

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Today's weather

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Editor-in-Chief: HASSAN AL KHOURI

Managing Editor: MAAZ D. SHUKRAY

Editorial and advertising offices:

JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 67171-3-4-5

Tel. 21497 Al Rai JO, Cables: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.

The Jordan Times is published daily, except Friday.

Advertising and subscription rates are available from the

Jordan Times advertising department.

Board of Directors

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FERNANDO FRANCIS

Met under Zionist attack

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuter

Until recently no American institution has been more adept at handling the delicate politics of culture than New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, known as the "Met".

Ignoring political dividing lines, it once coaxed the Kremlin into lending it Russia's rarest icons and even Catherine the Great's wedding dress.

It also convinced Ireland to part briefly with the book of Kelms, the country's most prized work of art,

and from Egypt it won permission to show King Tutankhamen's treasures.

But over past weeks the Met has been the target of an Israeli campaign accusing it of playing politics and an attack by New York Mayor Edward Koch charging that the museum is suffering "political hallucinations."

The uproar prompted some museum members to quit and caused the New York City Council to take a first step, now withdrawn, towards removing a \$10.6 million a year subsidy.

While former Secretary of State

Henry Kissinger, the most prominent Jewish member of the

The cause of all the fuss was the disclosure that the museum, after four and a half years of negotiations, has refused to be the sponsor of an exhibition of "Israeli" archaeological treasures including many items from the occupied West Bank.

The museum's reasons for its refusal struck a raw nerve in this city whose large Jewish population strongly supports cultural institutions like the Met and, on the other hand, takes any rejection of Israel as personal slight.

The Met said it could not directly sponsor the show since many items would come from the Rockefeller museum in occupied Jerusalem which the museum called "disputed territory." It said to do so would involve the Met in politics.

The Met also claimed that sponsoring the exhibit posed a major security risk, although it was willing to show the same exhibit if it were sponsored by the government-funded Smithsonian Institute.

He said: "We did feel, in consulting knowledgeable people on our board, that we couldn't have an Israeli show that was predominately made up of things from disputed territories. I said the best thing was for us to take the Smithsonian show, organised by the U.S. government."

The Smithsonian, which is partly government-funded, later protested that it was not an arm of the U.S. government.

Mr. Macomber's comments drew attacks from Israel, which

claimed that only a small part of the proposed show came from the occupied West Bank and from Mayor Koch, an outspoken Israeli supporter.

The Mayor wrote to Met Board Chairman Douglas Dillon charging that the museum was being unfair to Israel and subordinating curatorial decisions to "political hallucinations and speculative fears of reprisals by terrorists."

The Mayor, who fanatically lambasts the United Nations for anti-Israel votes, threatened that he could not stand idly by if the Met was to be guided by political decisions, "particularly since the city of New York provides financial support to the museum."

That support this year totals \$10.6 million, or 23 percent of the museum's budget.

City hall sources said Mr. Koch suggested that a possible reason for the Met's decision was that by sponsoring such an Israeli show, it would endanger the museum's archaeological digs in Arab countries.

A museum spokeswoman later denied that this was a factor. Mr. Dillon, in a letter to the mayor,

apologised for the museum's decision and promised to work out a solution "satisfactory to the parties concerned."

His letter stopped a move in the New York City Council to begin a hearing on city funding for the museum, which is located on tax-free city-owned land.

While several Jewish groups hailed Mr. Dillon's letter, especially his vow that he and the museum were firmly committed to the idea that "cultural decisions must not be politicised," the Met's action still rankles several prominent New York Jewish leaders.

They claimed all that has changed is that the Met has publicly apologised for taking a decision that museum officials should have known in the first place would cause an uproar.

They added that the Met is still not directly sponsoring the exhibit but simply planning to show one organised by the Smithsonian, now planned for spring 1984, with the objects basically to be chosen by the Smithsonian. The exhibit will be shown across the country. The Met says it would like to be the first museum to show it.

Mr. Almirante, a distinguished-looking 67-year-old, told the MSI's 13th congress, "restoring the Fascist regime without Mussolini or the historical forces which gave it life, credibility and strength." Only madmen could think of it.

The MSI (the initials stand for Italian Social Movement) is the fourth largest party in Italy. Cold-shouldered by the other parties and constantly reviled by the left, it nonetheless holds 30 seats in the 630-seat Chamber of Deputies and 13 in the 315-seat Senate.

Mr. Almirante, a former petty official in Mussolini's administration, a journalist, war correspondent and holder of the military cross of valour, is balding, moustachioed and dresses impeccably.

The MSI Congress was torn with internecine disputes but enough rhetoric emerged to give a picture of the kind of Italy he and his followers would like to see.

The history of the far right is a murky affair, full of accusations and counter-accusations about murders, terrorism, arms caches and failed coups.

Mr. Almirante steers a skilful path through the minefields of Italian politics. The MSI, he says, represents a "third way."

Opponents say the MSI is a collection of reactionaries nostalgic for the excesses of Fascism and secretly sympathetic to violence.

Far-right groups have killed more people, usually in bomb blasts, than extreme leftists, including the Red Brigades.

But the MSI loudly condemns violence and constantly campaigns for the death penalty for guerrillas convicted of murder.

Political analysts say that despite constant threats to resign if internal schisms continue, Mr. Almirante is a key figure in the drive to present the party as a respectable alternative.

The MSI's platform is a mixture, which the analysts describe as an attempt to appeal to the law-and-order-seeking middle classes and disgruntled workers and farmers who feel Italian society has let them down.

It promotes a suggestion that military tribunals should summarily try and execute guerrillas with the same enthusiasm as plans to reorganise the economy on lines clearly reminiscent of the theories of Mussolini.

Mr. Almirante even declared himself "profoundly moved" to note what he perceived as the similarity between the recent encyclical of Pope John Paul "laborum exercens" (on work and workers) and the social objectives of our own party."

But the activities of some far-right militants suggest that many are more concerned with carrying the fight to the opposition by whatever means possible than with high-sounding utterances about national renewal.

Last weekend, magistrates named three senior police officials in connection with rightist violence involving a feud between neo-Nazi and Fascist factions and attacks on leftists' organisations and activists.

Massacres such as the Bologna station bombing in 1980 where 84 people were killed have been the hallmark of neo-Fascist violence. The trial of neo-Nazi activist Mario Tuti and others accused of the 1974 bombing of a passenger express outside Bologna, which is still in progress.

The MSI is at pains to distance itself from violent groups such as the "Armed Revolutionary National" (NAR) and "Third Position" but many members of these groups who end up in court appear to have joined the party at some stage in their careers.

Mr. Almirante told the Congress "a vote for us is not just a negative vote but a vote of opposition for opposition."

In the last elections, in 1979, Italians gave their verdict on the MSI's promises and the party gained some 5.3 percent of the popular vote.

Fascism modern fashion

By Michael Sheridan
Reuter

ROME — Members of the Italian far-right, custodians of the spirit of Italy's Fascist past, are trying to persuade voters that they offer a respectable alternative to recurring scandals and government crises.

Giorgio Almirante, leader of MSI, the party of Italy's neo-Fascists, advocates a blend of what he calls the patriotic virtues of the age of Fascist Dictator Benito Mussolini and "practical common sense."

But he and his followers still take trouble to distance themselves from the violent extremes of right-wing urban guerrillas and the excesses and rejection of the democratic process that typified Mussolini's rule.

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France joins 'spy in the sky' club

By Gilbert Sedbon
Reuter

PARIS — France plans to put a spy satellite in orbit in the next five years to become the third country after the U.S. and the Soviet Union to track troops movements and military installations throughout the world, defence officials say.

The project has taken more than 20 years to materialise because the U.S. refused to help West European nations launch their own military surveillance satellites.

France, a nuclear power in its own right, has made no secret of its efforts to acquire observation instruments rather than rely exclusively on data supplied by the U.S. to the Atlantic allies, a senior defence official said.

"It is essential that we have our own spy satellite, and the sooner we get it the better," When ELDOS, the European

Launcher Development Organisation, was dissolved in the early 1970s after repeated European failures to build a telecommunications satellite booster, France said it would foot the major part of a billion-dollar bill to develop the now operational Ariane launcher.

The U.S. government had dismissed

France's armed forces have already booked part of the French earth observation satellite spot, due to be launched in June 1984.

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Economists warn U.S. to take urgent measures to save economy

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States could face a wave of major bankruptcies and an economic depression unless urgent action is taken in the next three months, according to some economists.

With increasing frequency, even cautious economists are leaving room in their forecasts for the possibility of a depression.

"It is rather disturbing. People would not have even talked about that word six months ago," said David Jones, top forecaster for New York investment company, Aubrey Lanston.

In a series of interviews, private economists told Reuters that President Reagan, Congress or the Federal Reserve Board—the indi-

pendent U.S. central bank—will have to take major steps to rescue the economy.

President Reagan's budget proposals project a deficit of \$91.5 billion for the next financial year, and similarly high shortfalls for years to come.

The prospect of such deficits, the experts say, has terrified financial markets and applied steady upward pressure on U.S. interest rates, already standing at a steep 16.5 per cent.

The commitment of the central bank—the "Fed"—to slow monetary growth leaves little new capital for economic recovery, and this also tends to push interest rates up.

The economists note that Congress has little if any control over

the Fed and must try to cope with the economic dilemma by rewriting the president's budget.

But Mr. Reagan has steadfastly refused to consider any proposals that would tamper either with this tax cut programme or with his build-up of defense, two major factors contributing to his large deficit projections.

None of the alternatives to the president's budget so far offered has attracted enough support in Congress from his fellow Republicans and opposition Democrats to override his objections.

Financial markets have reacted strongly to this impasse.

The Dow Jones industrial average of prices for 30 leading industrial shares has fallen about 55

points to below the 800 level since the president's budget was first leaked to the press in the first week of February.

Otto Eckstein, head of the consulting firm Data Resources, says in his latest forecast: "It is quite unrealistic to suppose that Congress can rescue the budget in the face of presidential opposition."

George MacKinney, senior economist for Irving Trust bank in New York, says: "As long as (interest) rates remain high, the potential for major and widespread bankruptcies will increase."

The Reagan administration has for the past year forecast a decline in interest rates, but Mr. Jones and Mr. MacKinney are not very hopeful about short-term interest rate trends.

Western recession affects Southeast Asia

SINGAPORE (R) — The recession in the West has finally caught up with the prospering economies of Southeast Asia, casting gloom over export prospects and sending share prices tumbling on the Singapore and Kuala Lumpur exchanges.

Industrial demand for rubber, tin and palm oil.

Shares on the Kuala Lumpur pur-

market dropped nearly four billion ringgit (\$1.7 billion) in value last month and are unlikely to improve with the prospect of a general election before the middle of the year unsettling investors, according to stockbrokers.

Although all the countries in the region have recorded impressive annual growth rates of between five and 10 per cent, economic expansion is expected to slow slightly this year as the effects of the slump in the United States and Europe start to filter through.

Some five billion Singapore dollars (\$2.4 billion) has been wiped off the value of shares on the Singapore stock exchange in the last month and traders see no end to the slide in the immediate future.

The picture is as grim in Malaysia, where earnings from com-

modities, the main export, have

been hit by the world slump in

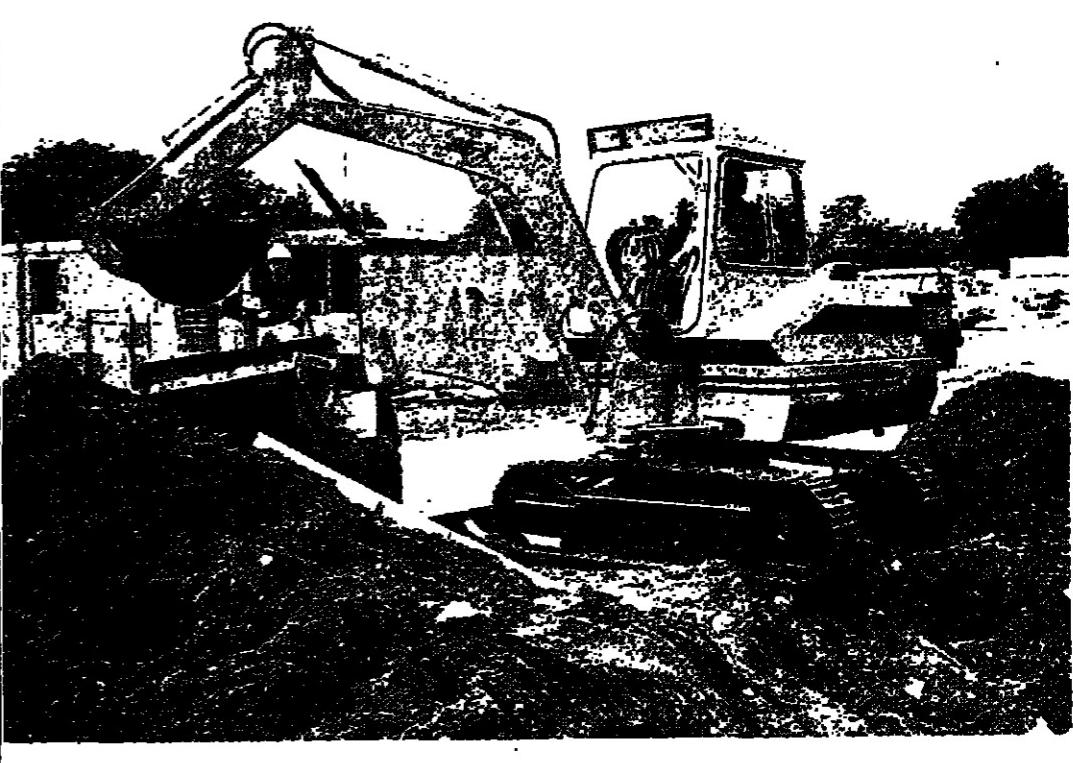
commodities, cars, and ship repairing. Some of the stocks to escape the general decline have been companies servicing the booming oil production and exploration industries since they have full order books up to 1984.

Japan to propose trade talks

TOKYO (R) — Japan, under pressure from the United States and Western Europe over its huge trade surpluses, is to propose a new round of international trade talks, Foreign Minister Yoshiro Sakurachi said on television Sunday.

In a discussion programme recorded on Saturday, he said he would suggest a new session of talks, similar to the "Tokyo round" of negotiations in 1973-79, when he went to Washington later this week.

Mini excavator makes its debut



LONDON (LPS) — The B15-X is a tracked mini-excavator with a heavy duty undercarriage and tractor-type running gear—for good traction and adhesion, especially when working on inclines—that can be operated in confined spaces such as close against walls.

Developed in Britain, the excavator has a maximum digging depth of 3 metre and a maximum reach at ground of 4.7m. Powered by a Leyland 1.8 litre water-cooled diesel engine, it is fitted with planetary reduction gearing in the track drive to give a ground clearance of 275mm.

The full size cab is insulated and mounted on the right of the machine on anti-noise and vibration

pads. It has a two-lever control system (both mounted on the left) and a separate panel above the windscreen with hour metre, warning lights, wipers and heaters. The standard 55-degree boom offset either side of centre allows the machine to operate in confined spaces where slewing the whole upper structure is impossible.

Fitted as standard is a dozer blade for back filling and accurate levelling and grading. Additional front end equipment can include a power hammer, hydraulic grabs, grapples and a long dipper.

The B15-X has an overall height of 2.30m, width 1.54m, an overall transport length of 4.50m and weighs 3250 kg.

Bleak prospects for U.N. fund for commodities

By Tom Heneghan
Reuters

GENEVA — The United Nations common fund for commodities, a price-stabilising scheme once touted as the great hope of Third World raw materials producers, is plodding along with little prospect of coming into operation in the near future.

Established in 1980 after four years of Third World pressure, the fund has yet to be ratified by many of the states which originally saw it as the first step towards a fairer distribution of the world's riches.

Diplomats and officials at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva blame the delay on everything from bureaucratic inefficiency to serious doubts about the changes made in the fund during the long negotiations which established it.

But none of the reasons can hide the disappointment that the novel plan to restructure world commodity trade seems to have lost its steam.

"The common fund was supposed to be the flagship of the new international economic order, but now it looks like it headed straight for the sand," a sympathetic West European diplomat said.

The fund is supposed to come into operation on March 31 after 90 countries representing two-thirds of its \$470 million directly contributed capital have formally

ratiified it.

But up until now 78 countries have signed the agreement and only 21 states have ratified it. This will make an extension of the deadline necessary and has raised doubts whether the plan will ever start supporting the prices of cocoa, coffee, rubber, tin and 14 other commodities.

The fund was intended to smooth out the world market for raw materials to protect both the producer countries—which often depend on exports of one or two commodities—and consumers from prices that soar and crash every few years.

The fund is to have a \$400 million "first account," which will act like a bank to help commodity pact such as the international rubber council obtain cheap loans to buy stocks.

Stock managers would then smooth out price fluctuations by buying goods when prices fell too low and reselling them when increased demand suddenly pushed prices too high.

A \$350 million "second acc-

ount" will be used to lend money to poor countries seeking technical help to improve their raw materials output.

Radical critics of the fund such as Libya and Algeria say all this is far below the six billion dollar scheme originally proposed and will be insufficient to really stabilise prices.

Lacking that much money, the preparatory rounds decided on strong voting rights in the fund as originally-conceived, so they could use it as a tool to break Western domination of the commodity trade. Instead, its 47 per cent of the ballot can only block passage of ideas it does not accept. A two-thirds majority is needed to pass motions.

And distribution of the 104,000 votes in the fund's council is weighted in favour of rich consuming countries rather than the poorer countries producing the commodities in question.

Heavy foot-dragging by the United States, matched by more reserved reluctance from the Soviet bloc, has also clouded the fund's prospects, according to UNCTAD secretariat officials.

Washington's stand shifted from reluctant acceptance to a more active opposition when President Reagan entered office. Money allocated for the fund was slashed from his fiscal 1983 budget, the officials say.

One diplomat said Washington, which is to contribute 16 per cent of the fund's capital, might delay

ratiification to use it as a bargaining chip in negotiations on other measures at the next UNCTAD conference in mid-1983.

Moderate voices in the Third World also say the voting system worked out in a compromise with reluctant developed states was another big disappointment.

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The U.S. also fought hard to

weaken agreements on rubber and

tin last year and then refused to

join a sign diplomats in Geneva

interpret as an example of Mr.

Reagan's tough economic poli-

cies used on a global scale.

The Soviet Union and its allies,

which would make up 10 per cent

of the fund's capital, have not yet

signed the fund agreement, and

Moscow's absence from the rub-

ber agreement last year leaves that

serious flaw as.

As the common fund loses its

place in the vanguard of the new

international economic order, the

UNCTAD secretariat has begun

searching for new ways of helping

developing countries earn more

for their raw materials; the prices

of which hit the lowest levels since

1960 last year.

At two meetings in Geneva ear-

lier this month, UNCTAD out-

lined the case for developing coun-

tries to process and market more

of their commodities to earn more

for them when exposed.

It also proposed a special fund

to compensate developing coun-

tries for shortfalls in export earn-

ings due to sudden drops in pri-

ces for their commodities.

But these ideas were roundly

criticised by delegates from the

industrialised countries.

Churches

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abid 23541
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman 23858
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiyah 75261
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiyah 71331
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational); meets at Southern Baptist School in Shm-

eisani 63249

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 4:23

Sunrise 5:46

Dhuhr 11:46

'Asr 3:10

Maghreb 5:45

Isha 7:08

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Jordan to host Arab basketball tourney

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar has approved a proposal that Jordan organises the next Arab Youth Basketball Championships in Al Hussein Youth City from June 20-30, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Sunday.

Arab Basketball Federation Championships Committee Chairman Ahmad Majbour, who was entrusted by the federation's board to contact Jordan on this matter, met on Saturday with Mr. Abu Nowar who welcomed the idea of Jordan's organising this competition, the paper added.

Mr. Abu Nowar has asked the Jordan Basketball Federation to make preliminary studies and arrangements for this tournament. Meanwhile Mr. Majbour, who is also the President of the Tunisia Basketball Federation, has invited Jordan to participate in the women basketball competition which will take place in Tunis during the summer.

French win Amman's

three-man team soccer meet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three-man football teams representing the German Club in Amman, the American Community School, and the British, French and Australian embassies to Jordan met in friendly matches Sunday at the Princess Alia Secondary School in Jabal Luweibdeh. The matches ended with the French team coming first, the German second, the American third and the British fourth. President of the German Club Kurt Saake presented medals to the best 10 players.

Despatch riders rush weekend sports footage for television

COLOGNE (DaD) — Franz Gross, a 50-year-old despatch rider from Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany, is on first-name terms with sporting records. Week after week he and his men rush reels of film from the sports ground to the studio for screening on TV. He rides a 99hp. 250kph bike

on his weekend dash from one stadium to the next to get footage to the studio on time. Speed is essential; there is seldom time to spare between the final whistle and TV sports programme deadlines. Cologne and Frankfurt, say, are 200 kilometres apart. Gross covers the distance in about 50 minutes.

Statistically the Australian bowlers had the better of the third day, taking seven wickets for 146. It was certainly an improvement on their Saturday's efforts in which the only wicket to fall was to a dubious run-out decision.

Edgar, who had come in on Friday night and batted throughout Saturday, extended his innings until just before tea.

But he can no longer handle the business on his own. He set up a company some years ago and now heads a team of 25 despatch riders.

The vigil ended when he offered a return catch to off-spinner Bruce Yardley after eight and a half hours at the crease in which he had batted with eight separate partners.

When umpire Bricknell shook his head Yardley leapt up and down in rage in front of him.

Australian team manager Alan Crompton said that no action would be taken over the incidents.

TURKISH AIRLINES Turk Hava Yolları

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Zambia upsets Nigeria in African Cup

BENGHAZI, Libya (R) — An upset 1-0 victory by Zambia over Nigeria Saturday night sent the African Soccer Cup holders crashing out of this year's tournament at the end of the preliminary rounds.

Nigeria needed only a draw to join World Cup finalists Algeria from preliminary Group Two in the semifinals on Tuesday. But a 25th minute goal from

Peter Kaumba put Zambia on the road to victory and further goals from Aaron Njovu and Willie Phiri put the game beyond doubt.

Earlier Algeria made sure of their place in the semifinals when they drew 0-0 with Ethiopia to finish on top of preliminary Group Two.

Zambia will meet Group One winners Libya in Tripoli in one semifinal while Algeria will play

Ghana here.

Nigeria's exit from the Cup was the tournament's second major shock following World Cup finalists Cameroun's failure to qualify from Group One.

Kaumba's early goal stunned the Nigerians who attacked in increasing desperation as they strived for the vital equalising goal.

But the Zambians, growing in confidence, repulsed the Nigerians and struck again nine minutes from time when Njovu slammed a close-range shot past goalkeeper Peter Fregene.

Only a minute later Phiri wrapped up the scoring with a long shot from the left flank which Fregene failed to turn away.

Algeria were untroubled against bottom-of-the-table Ethiopia.

Poor Algerian finishing cost them any chance of a win, but with their semifinal place already assured the World Cup qualifiers were content to coast to a dull draw.

Veteran Emiel Puttemans wins Rome marathon

ROME (R) — Veteran Belgian Emiel Puttemans outclassed a field of 40,000 runners to win the Rome international marathon in a fast of two hours nine minutes 53 seconds Sunday.

Puttemans, winner of the silver medal behind Finn Lasse Viren in the 1972 Olympic 10,000 metres, finished more than two minutes ahead of Britain's Ian Thompson, the 1974 European champion with Karel Lismont, another Belgian, third.

Puttemans shook off a challenge from Thompson around the 24 kilometre mark and was never seriously threatened. Thompson finished in 2:12:09 with Lismont close behind in 2:12:36.

New Zealand maintains control in 2nd test against Australia

AUCKLAND (A.P.) — Bruce Edgar's painstaking innings of 161—a record for his country against Australia—maintained New Zealand control of the second test at Eden Park here Sunday.

Although New Zealand's total of 387 fell a little short of Saturday's expectations, Australia will have to work hard to overcome a first innings deficit of 177 and prevent New Zealand's second test victory in 14 matches between the countries.

In the 43rd of his 56 overs Yardley snapped. Umpire Bruce Bricknell, standing in his first test, edged Yardley by turning down two appeals in three balls against Richard Hadlee. In the first of them Graeme Wood scooped up what the Australians were convinced was a bat-pad catch at short-leg.

In the 43rd of his 56 overs Yardley snapped. Umpire Bruce Bricknell, standing in his first test, edged Yardley by turning down two appeals in three balls against Richard Hadlee. In the first of them Graeme Wood scooped up what the Australians were convinced was a bat-pad catch at short-leg.

Wood, still on the ground, hurled the ball back past the bowler in disgust.

Yardley shouted again for lbw and when it went against him he snatched his sweater from umpire Bricknell's hands, stalked off towards the boundary, and then threw the sweater on the ground.

Greg Chappell realised that Yardley was endangering the reputation gained through a month of diplomacy and walked to the other end to speak to him. He had also spoken to Wood after he had thrown the ball.

Next over Yardley was up to his antics again when another lbw appeal went against him. This time Chappell stood at slip, hands on hips, glaring in Yardley's direction.

Australian team manager Alan Crompton said that no action would be taken over the incidents.

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

1981 by Chicago Tribune

East-West, vulnerable. South-deals.

NORTH	EAST
♦ Q 74	♦ 83
♦ Q 965	♦ Q 10864

WEST	EAST
♦ Q 86	♦ J 9
♦ AK 1042	♦ Q 765
♦ A 8	♦ K 1072
♦ 97	♦ J 32

SOUTH	NORTH
♦ A 10532	2 ♠ 3 ♦
♦ 9	♦ 9
♦ J 43	♦ AK 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♦
3 ♠	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Opening lead: King of ♡

was not too sanguine at his prospects—he apparently had three red suit losers and a trump, and it looked as if the opponents would have had to lose at least four tricks as well. The only hope was that the defenders would misread the situation. Therefore, it would be fatal to allow either defender to signal to his partner where his strength lay.

To make sure that they could not get a message across to each other, declarer ruffed the second heart and led ace and a low trump! This had a two-fold purpose: since it was quite likely that both opponents would follow, neither would be able to signal; and there was a chance that the defenders would think that declarer did not hold the king of trumps, and that his strength was in the side suits.

West could not afford to go up with the queen of trumps lest his partner had started with a doubleton king. He played low, but when East won the jack of trumps he was in a difficult spot. It did not look right to lead a diamond away from the king with the queen in dummy, and a club looked no better. So East settled for the "safe" return of a heart. That was that.

Declarer ruffed, drew the last trump, then ran dummy's clubs. Five tricks in each black suit were all that declarer had contracted for.

East's king of diamonds and West's ace shared the honors on the last trick.

Southampton keeps 2 point advantage on top of League

LONDON (R) — Leaders Southampton suffered another jolt in their bid for the English League soccer title when they were held to a goalless draw by West Bromwich Saturday.

But Southampton, who crashed 2-0 to struggling Sunderland on Wednesday, stayed top despite the deadlock against a West Bromwich side who are 16th in the 22-team first division.

The leaders have 55 points from 31 games — two more than Swansea, who remained second with two matches in hand after a 0-0 home draw with Coventry.

Manchester United, without a fixture, are still third on 50 points, while Arsenal moved firmly into the championship battle with a 1-0 win over Ipswich.

Manchester City are level on 48 points with Liverpool but stay sixth with an inferior goal difference after a 1-1 draw against Nottingham Forest.

League Champions Aston Villa warmed up for next week's European Cup quarter-final clash against Dynamo Kiev of the Soviet Union when they beat Wolverhampton 2-1.

Birmingham gained their first victory under former Villa manager Ron Saunders when they toppled Stoke 2-1.

West Ham, one of the early-season pacemakers who have slipped to the middle of the table, beat Notts County 1-0 with a first half penalty by Ray Stewart.

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REVIEW

The video revolution shakes cine industry

By John Chittock

The inexorable decline of the cinema continues in spite of the tenacity of its disciples. But recent developments indicate that the decline may be now turning into a slow dissolve -- with video displacing the lingering image of the previous scene.

For those who doubt the decline, the statistics tell their own story. U.K. cinema attendances in August last year were down 9.59 per cent over the previous year. Swedish figures for the year ended June last year were down 7.31 per cent, Singapore down 12 per cent in 1981, and the number of new U.S. feature film productions scheduled for this year was down 8.63 per cent.

The good news is that the film industry is now deeply committed to making its products available on video -- after a long and suspicious courtship -- and now the cinema owners at last look like embracing video too, instead of denouncing it.

As the displays in any video programme shop will confirm, a vast range of feature films is now available on video, and not only are all the old names of the film industry there (Warner, MGM, Universal) but some are actually joining up in video ventures (20th Century Fox and CBS; Columbia Pictures and Bell & Howell). The "big screen" itself looks like becoming a part of the video industry instead of the cinema business. The change is beginning with the 16 mm non-theatrical film, with some viewing groups deserting to video projectors. In the U.S. for example, the sales of video projectors in January were up 49 per cent over the previous year, and more film-based auditoria are slowly equipping themselves with video projectors.

or fibre optics cable TV -- the bandwidth (which governs definition and brightness range) has been greatly extended.

The results, as observed by one respected U.S. expert, were "comparable in picture quality to 35 mm film." An American football game, recorded by television cameras operating on the system, was "spectacular." With less objectivity, perhaps, NHK's Director of General Engineering goes even further and claims that the system is capable of picture quality "equivalent to that of a 35 mm transparency and superior to that of 35 mm motion picture film."

Such statements annoy film people, so I might add that it's all very expensive and there are still many operational matters to be sorted out. But the NHK system has serious implications because it is not merely an electronic image reproduction system that could displace film projection; it is also a programme production method which could make film cameras obsolete. American film director, Francis Coppola (or *Apocalypse Now* fame), has produced two experimental films using the system -- *Six Short and Double Suicide* and clearly sees some future for it.

In the meantime, the home viewing of films via the video-cassette machine is set to make further challenges to the conventional cinema. The impact of the big screen and the superior quality of 35 mm film could become less significant as the concept of the home video projector catches on. For those unwilling or unable to meet the higher cost and size of a domestic video projector, the conventional television set may offer better quality in the future.

In terms of definition and overall picture quality, domestic TV receivers are getting better -- and still leave room for further improvement. Latest step in this direction is a proposal from the BBC, which suggests that satellite or optical fibre transmissions could yield improved quality for home

viewers without any need to change from the existing 625 line standard.

Most present day TV sets are designed to have a frequency "roll-off" about 4 MHz for reasons associated with the current transmission system -- but this would be unnecessary in the technical proposals from the corporation.

The quality advantage of the film-based cinema is thus in danger of being challenged. There will be fewer reasons for the public to desert their fire-sides, and even the traditional concept of the film critic may change. Critics are already reviewing feature films which have been released on video-cassettes. How long before they, too, will find no reason to desert their armchairs for the preview cinemas of the big-screen industry?

-- Financial Times news feature

Dog helps to find hidden treasure

LONDON (R) — A jewel-studded golden hare hidden by an English author who gave mysterious clues to its whereabouts in a best-selling children's book, has been found after a three-year quest -- with the help of a dog.

Writer Kit Williams set off a treasure hunt involving thousands of people when he buried a 150-mm hare, made of 18-carat gold and studded with jewels, and challenged readers to work out where it was from indications in his book *Masquerade*.

A report in the Sunday Times newspaper Sunday says a design engineer ended the hunt last month when he found the treasure in a public park near Bedford, about 80 kilometres north of London.

The finder, who requested anonymity, discovered the hare after months of wrestling with clues contained in the riddles and paintings of *Masquerade*.

From slow waltz to quickstep

Max-Ulrich Busch and Renate Hilgert from West Berlin won the world ballroom dancing championships in Frankfurt am Main in all five standard dances: The slow waltz, the tango, the Viennese waltz, the slow foxtrot and the quickstep. Runners-up were Britain's Adrian Pritchard and Heather Stuart. Busch, a 30-year-old doctor, and Hilgert, a 29-year-old games mistress, crowned an outstanding amateur career in Frankfurt. They had already won 12 national and several European titles and a hat-trick of World Cup wins: In 1981 they won the coveted World Cup for keeps. (Photo: DaD/ap)

Protestants protest against papal visit

LIVERPOOL (R) — Pope John Paul's visit to Liverpool in May will go ahead despite threats from militant Protestants to disrupt his preaching, organisers said Friday.

Protestants angry about the Pope's visit shouted down the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Robert Runcie, when he tried to address the congregation of a Liverpool church Thursday.

About 150 demonstrators accused Dr. Runcie, head of the Anglican church, of being a traitor to Protestantism because he had agreed to the Pope's visit to Britain.

"None who witnessed the ugly scenes in the Liverpool Parish church will wish to see any return to the disputes of former days."

The archbishop was also a victim of Protestant heckling earlier in the week.

The statement said: "The sad occasions of this last week will serve to strengthen commitment to the cause of Christian unity."

"None who witnessed the ugly scenes in the Liverpool Parish church will wish to see any return to the disputes of former days."

Yesterday's great-great-granddaughter born

Sleepy Filipino town awakens**People dare to die in search of gold**

By Modesto Sa-Onoy

Reuter

HINOBIA-AN, Philippines — Thousands of people bearing picks and shovels have flocked to this once-sleepy town to seek their fortune in a month-long gold rush which has already claimed at least six lives.

One of the six was a man hacked to death over a staked claim dispute.

Formerly the 40,000 residents of Hinoba-An, on the southern edge of Negros Island, about 500 kilometres south of Manila, earned a gentle living from coconuts, lumber and fishing.

Then in mid-January it was announced that nuggets of 24-carat gold had been found along the banks of a river near Sitio Sangke, a village of only 30 families eight kilometres from Hinoba-An.

The island's people were at first sceptical but by the end of the month local authorities estimated that up to 100,000 fortune hunters, including Americans and Japanese, had made their way along the rough and dusty roads to Hinoba-An.

Housewives, teachers, farm workers, office staff and others abandoned everything to dig and pan for gold.

In their wake came buyers from Manila and local jewellery stores, erecting tents among the hundreds of makeshift shelters of bamboo and coconut leaves.

The diggers and panners rise early each day to work on their claims of a few square metres of earth or river bank.

Some strike lucky early — with the local price running at between eight and \$12 a gramme, one man claimed to make \$3,000 after only a week.

But the price for others is higher.

Five lives have so far been claimed by landslides, as well as the man hacked to death. An outbreak of gastro-enteritis sent several to hospital.

Many bring in their own food and though good fresh fish is available, its price has risen as a result of increased demand.

People still congregate on the area, and many are not disappointed.

Traders who have set up along the banks of the river and at a crossing renamed "golden" say a quarter of a million dollars worth of gold has changed hands since the rush began.

The early history of the island tells of Spanish colonisers using gold. In 1975, the government's Bureau of Mines reported heavy deposits of several metals, including gold, around Hinoba-An.

But the actual discovery of gold at Sanke was believed to have been made by two Moslem traders some three years ago.

They kept the find secret, but before they left last December they asked their helper to keep digging and collect the gold until they returned.

When they failed to show up after some time, the man sold some of the gold to employees of a local timber company and a few town officials.

Inevitably, the news got out and the fever continues to run high.

REDWOOD CITY, California (A.P.) — A seven-pound girl born Friday became the sixth living generation of women in a family whose roots stretch back to 1891.

Kimberly Kathleen Peters, 19,

gave birth to the baby, Tara Kathleen Peters, at 3:07 a.m. at Kaiser Foundation Hospital while her 21-year-old husband, George A. Peters Jr., and a crew filming a

documentary about the family looked on.

The birth makes Frankie Underwood, 90, of Fitzgerald, Georgia, a great-great-grandmother.

"When the baby came out, there were absolute cheers in the delivery room," said Michael Colozzi, a family friend making the film.

THE Daily Crossword

By Marion Moeser

ACROSS	23 Confess	46 Holmesian	16 City on the Loire
1 Leg parts	25 See 15 A	47 High note	17 Celtic priest
6 Twain, to	28 Take food	48 Of heat	21 Wise man
his ma	29 Composer,	49 Open up —	23 Willow rod
9 Aunt: Sp:	Erik	50 Of worms	24 Things for
12 City on Portugal's Douro River	30 Lath	51 52	sale
13 Numerical prefix	31 Dismissed	53 Arthur C. Clarke's	26 A Salty Aves.
14 Singular	32 Evil creatures	figures (with 56)	31 Her name means "Peace"
15 "Methuselah lived —," said Gershwin (with 25 A)	33 Arithmetic	56 See 34 A	32 Frightened
18 "Sketches" writer	34 Remarkable	37 Singing groups	33 Zodiac sign
19 Very: Fr.	35 Aged	38 Step	34 "Whilther —goest," said Ruth
20 Dionysus married her	36 See 34 A	39 Seven hills site	35 Murder
22 "a jolly good..."	37 Entertainer Lee	50 Draft initials	36 " — of Larceny"
	38 Step	51 Acts the usher	37 — Magnon
	39 Seven hills site	52 English novelist	38 Depart
	50 Draft initials	53 See 53 A	40 Fish dishes
	51 Acts the usher	54 Very	41 Geometrical cutting line
	52 English novelist	55 There ought —	42 Antelopes
	53 See 53 A	56 To	43 Landowska
	54 Very	57 Floss"	45 Voices
	55 There ought —		46 Night birds
	56 To		47 Landowska
	57 Floss"		48 Tavern
			49 Outmoded: abr.
			50 Actress Mary

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

LAMP	DINAR	SILAP
ABEL	UNAINE	PURE
SIBA	SAINA	STAIN
SAINT	JAMES	STAINA
TAIR	BARA	PAT
EDWARD	EDWARD	EDWARD
TODAY	I HIS KEEPS	EDWARD
ECHO	EUSIE SANDRA	EDWARD
MEET	MISTI LOUIS	EDWARD
PAINTS	KAYAS COS	EDWARD
OIGEON	CAMI VERY	EDWARD
LEIDA	ESTE	EDWARD
NERIO	CARAFE	EDWARD
STIPETER	BURGFLA	EDWARD
SIOUL	MOITE	EDWARD
RACK	ERIOS	EDWARD
SITEEL	DIOPE	EDWARD

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MAR. 15, 1982**YOUR DAILY Horoscope**

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you would be wise to stop, look and listen to what an experienced person says about a mutual problem. Make changes that could give you added income.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An outside affair may pose a problem but you can easily overcome it. Avoid one who is a troublemaker. Express happiness.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have to change your attitude to gain your aims at this time. A higher-up can give the assistance you need.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Persevere and attend to important obligations that you have neglected. Arrive on time for an important duty.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You may find friends moving or making changes, so be prepared for such. Take better care of your health.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Study your duties well and know where to make the right changes. Excellent results will follow. Be more cooperative.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A new activity comes up and you should go along with it. Put aside thoughts of pleasure for the time being.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study the situation at home carefully, and make sure you change your tactics for better results. Use care in motion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Discussions with close ties in the morning can make regular routines more efficient. Be careful in motion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study your aims in life and make those changes that are necessary in order to get ahead. Sidelight: An opponent.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) If you feel disappointed in yourself, you can offset this by constructive thinking. Study new channels of expression.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Organizing the practical side of life intelligently will see you accomplishing more. Use your own good judgment.

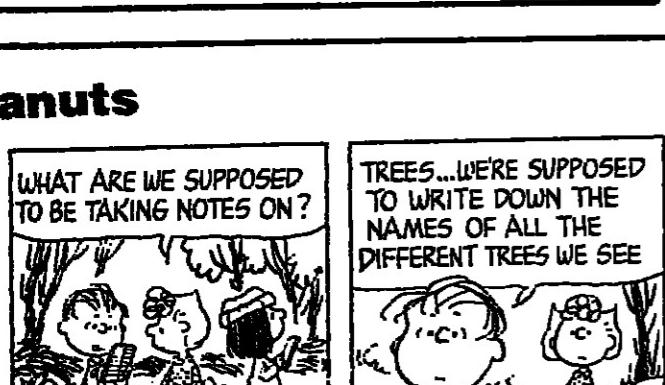
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have to make changes if you want your personal life to have more meaning. Contact a friend who has drifted away.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY . . . he or she must be taught the right philosophy and then this can become a most successful life. Direct the education along artistic lines for best results. Don't neglect religious training early in life. Stress sports.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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Peanuts**Mutt 'n' Jeff**

WORLD

Interior minister fined for defaming Chirac

Court ruling against Defferre mars French local elections

PARIS (R) — France held local elections Sunday in a poll overshadowed by a court decision early Sunday morning against Interior Minister Gaston Defferre.

Hours before the first major test of the Socialists' popularity since they came to power last summer, Mr. Defferre was found guilty of defaming Jacques Chirac, president of the neo-Gaullist RPR party and effective leader of the opposition.

The minister was ordered to pay a nominal one franc (16 U.S. cents) in damages and fined 1,500 francs (\$250) for telling an election meeting in Marseilles that Mr. Chirac and two RPR colleagues had links with a murdered Corsican casino owner.

Even before Sunday's court ruling had highlighted the conflict between left and right, the Cantonal elections for more than 2,000 seats in departmental assemblies had taken on a new significance.

In the past they were among the least important of elections for the political parties. But the gov-

ernment's decentralisation law, shortly to take effect, will give local government increased responsibility by ending the system of control from Paris.

Candidates in Sunday's first round of voting must take 50 per cent of the vote to be elected outright and a second round next Sunday will decide those seats where there is no immediate winner.

The court decision against Mr. Defferre followed a protracted wrangle over whether the court was competent to hear the case. Mr. Defferre's counsel said government ministers should be tried by the high court of justice.

Mr. Defferre said later that he would appeal against the verdict.

It was the second time in elections this year that a pre-political ruling has distracted electors from the issue of how successful the government has been in carrying out its programme of radical reforms.

Two months ago, by-elections which were not expected to be a guide to the standing of the gov-

ernment were overshadowed by a ruling just a few hours before voting began that the Socialists' nationalisation bill was contrary to the constitution.

Opposition parties took all four seats at issue, three of which had been won by the left last June. However, Mr. Defferre pointed out at the time that the right had previously held all four continuously since 1958.

The increased significance of Sunday's elections is marked by the candidature in local ballots of leading national figures, including Mr. Chirac, five government ministers and former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing is returning to the political scene for the first time since his election defeat at the hands of President Francois Mitterrand last May.

Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, who has described the elections as "unquestionably a political test," has called for a vote of confidence in the programme of radical reforms pledged in the general elec-

Another Nkomo aide arrested

SALISBURY (R) — A member of parliament for opposition leader Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party has been arrested in connection with boards of illicit weapons found last month on party land, the Sunday Mail newspaper reported Sunday.

The pro-government newspaper said Akim Ndlovu was arrested last Wednesday under emergency powers regulations which allow for detention without trial for up to 30 days.

There was no official confirmation of Mr. Ndlovu's arrest. But informed sources said he had been picked up along with three other prominent men with ZAPU connections whose arrest was announced this week.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's office said the arrest of the three, who included the Zimbabwe army's deputy commander, was "in pursuance of current investigations into calcification of arms."

The trial against the 11 women accused of practising or having abortions in Spain was suspended two times, the first in October 1979 and the second a year ago both when two of the principal defendants failed to show up at court.

A group of about 150 feminists staged a sit-in Sunday at the Madrid bar while groups of women demonstrated in the northern Basque country against the trial.

The controversial trial involves nine working-class women who had abortions, one of them 13 years ago, the abortionist and her daughter.

The prosecution is asking prison terms of 55 and 60 years for the abortionist and her daughter and six-month terms for the nine women who underwent abortions, illegal in Spain.

The case brought widespread protest in 1979 with more than

Polls predict election setback for Roy Jenkins

LONDON (A.P.) — Roy Jenkins, former president of the European Common Market, will lose his bid to re-enter the House of Commons in a special election (by-election) in Glasgow next week. Two opinion polls predicted Sunday.

Defeat in the Scottish seat could end Mr. Jenkins' efforts to become leader of the new centrist alliance between the fledgling Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the old-established Liberals.

Mr. Jenkins must have a House of Commons seat to be a credible British political leader. He is the

only one of the four SDP founders outside the house, having abandoned it in 1976 to take the European post. All four are breakaways from the Labour Party.

A national opinion poll survey for the Sunday Observer IV Glasgow's Hillhead electoral district, which votes March 25, found Mr. Jenkins trailing third with only 23 per cent support, behind Labourite David Wiseman with 33 per cent and Conservative Gerry Malone, 30 per cent.

The remaining 14 per cent split between other candidates and

undecideds.

A poll for the Scottish Sunday Standard newspaper and the British Broadcasting Corp. found Mr. Malone ahead with 30 per cent support. Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Wiseman level with 27 per cent each and the remainder split among others.

Mr. Jenkins told a reporter: "I never comment on polls."

Pollsters reported being told by Som Hillhead voters that they don't find Mr. Jenkins a very attractive candidate — "a carpetbagger from England and a Welshman to boot," one said.

Similar statements have been issued repeatedly in the past, but the guerrillas fought on in Africa's longest war.

Guerrilla strength has been sapped, however, by weeks of fighting last year between the EPLF and the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council (ELF-RC). Some 4,000 ELF-RC fighters were chased out of their strongholds in the lowlands and driven across the border into the Sudan.

Late in February, Ethiopia said the government offensive was progressing according to plan and added: "Victory against the anti-people and anti-unitary elements and the task of restoring normality in the troubled Eritrea region will not be far away."

No time frame was given but African diplomats said the Eth-

Ethiopian hopes clash with realities in Eritrea

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuter

NAIROBI — Ethiopia's Marxist military rulers have committed half their Soviet-equipped armed forces, the biggest in black Africa, to what they see as the final government offensive in a 21-year war of secession in Eritrea.

The government in Addis Ababa, a close ally of the Soviet Union, has given no indication of the size of the force involved in the latest attempt to crush guerrillas fighting for the independence of the strategic Red Sea province of Eritrea.

But Western military experts estimate that at least 120,000 troops (out of a total of around 240,000) have been deployed in Eritrea and neighbouring Tigre Province, where a separate guerrilla movement is fighting the government.

Ethiopia's soldiers are backed by tanks, artillery, fighter-bombers and helicopter gunships of the type used by the Soviets in Afghanistan. "The government's firepower is impressive," said one diplomat familiar with developments in the volatile Horn of Africa. "But firepower alone doesn't win wars."

The government drive is by far the biggest military effort to pacify Ethiopia's unruly north since the first shots were fired in Eritrea in September 1961.

On Feb. 1, a policy document adopted by a meeting chaired by Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam vowed to "mobilise forces for the total and final destruction of remaining secessionist strongholds (and), search and destroy supporters and sympathisers of the secessionist movements."

Third World diplomats in Addis Ababa said that Lt. Col. Mengistu had gambled his prestige on the success of the offensive by firmly committing himself to the destruction of the rebels.

Past efforts to bring the warring sides to the negotiating table have

involved parties as diverse as Sudanese President Jafaar Numeiri and Cuban leader Fidel Castro. Neither was able to bridge the vast gulf between the rebels and the government.

The guerrillas say that the former Italian colony of Eritrea — with some 1,000 kilometres of coastline on the Red Sea — was illegally annexed by the late Emperor Haile Selassie.

The Ethiopians have rejected demands for Eritrean independence because they fear that the secession of the province would signal the collapse of an empire made up of a bewildering array of rival ethnic groups and tribes.

Offensives and counters

Reports from the Eritrean battle fronts have been sketchy but Western military experts say the rebels appear to be under greater pressure than at any time since young leftist officers overthrew Haile Selassie in 1974 and perpetuated his Eritrean policy.

The accounts are considered vastly exaggerated by military experts but propaganda has not been restricted to the rebel side:

According to a spate of communiques issued by the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF), the most effective of the guerrilla groups, thousands of Ethiopian troops have been killed in the rugged Eritrean highlands and the sun-baked savannahs of the western plains along the border with Sudan.

Late in February, Ethiopia said the government offensive was progressing according to plan and added: "Victory against the anti-people and anti-unitary elements and the task of restoring normality in the troubled Eritrea region will not be far away."

No time frame was given but African diplomats said the Eth-

opian military appeared to be confident of success before the end of April, when the onset of the rainy season makes the movement of armour and heavy equipment near-impossible.

Military experts in Nairobi feel the Ethiopians are overconfident. Eritrea is ideal guerrilla country and in the area around Nakfa, the only town still in rebel hands, the EPLF has built a warren of fortified underground installations which would pose formidable problems even to the best-equipped assault force.

Relations with Moscow

There has been no convincing explanation for the timing of the latest offensive but one school of diplomatic thought in Addis Ababa maintains that the military leadership wants to solve the Eritrean problem because it would lessen Ethiopia's dependence on the Soviet Union.

According to usually well-informed European diplomatic sources, the Soviets have consistently counselled restraint and urged negotiations.

Although Ethiopia is linked to the Soviet Union by a formal treaty of friendship and cooperation, Ethiopians tend to be nationalists first and Marxists second. They are extremely sensitive to what they perceive as interference in Ethiopian affairs.

Such sensitivity was thrown into sharp focus early this month when the government ordered half the staff of the French embassy out of the country within 48 hours.

The decision was in reaction to a statement by French President Francois Mitterrand's Socialist Party — not the French government — which condemned the offensive against the Eritreans.

An Ethiopian statement declared that the French party reflected "haughty arrogance and a colonial mentality... blatant indifference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state."

CAIRO (A.P.) — Sudanese presidential envoy met with President Hosni Mubarak Sunday and presented him a letter from Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri, the government news agency said. Envoy Mansour Suleiman told reporters that this letter was part of the two presidents' continuous exchange of points of view on mutual interests, which would lead to complete integration between the two countries, the agency said.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Clashes reported in North Yemen

alleged government involvement during negotiations on the tarmac to end the hijacking. The group surrendered five hours after the plane landed and freed 65 passenger hostages as well as 14 crewmen aboard the flight, which had been scheduled to fly on to Bombay from the Seychelles.

The Sunday Express and the Sunday Times both quoted sources as saying at least part of the proceedings might be closed to the press and public.

The Sunday Times said expected applications for "in camera" proceedings had nothing to do with the scheduled cross-examination of Col. Mouton on Monday by defence lawyers. The Express did not specify which matters might be heard privately.

South Africa has reportedly denied any involvement in the plot to topple the leftist government of President Albert Rene.

Iraq expects POW visits soon

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq expects that families of Gulf war prisoners will soon be exchanging visits. The Iraqi News Agency INA said Saturday night, Iraq and Iran agreed in January to allow visits by families of prisoners captured in the 18-month-old conflict. INA quoted a spokesman as saying Iraq had received the Iranian reply to Baghdad's proposal for organising visits. The spokesman said he hoped the exchange visits would take place shortly, with Kuwait and Ankara serving as stopover points for the families. The spokesman gave no details of Iran's reply.

U.K. to release warship to Iran

LONDON (R) — Britain is prepared to release to Iran's warship, ordered by the late Shah, as part of moves to improve relations with Tehran. The Sunday Telegraph newspaper said the British government had asked for an assurance that the £45-million (\$85-million) auxiliary vessel Kharg would not be used in action against Iraq. The paper said in Sunday's edition, Britain had also sought permission to remove a light gun from deck mountings on the 20,000-ton ship, it said. The Sunday Telegraph said the British government refused to sanction supply of guns or ammunition to Iran but was prepared to deliver spares for scores of British-built Chieftain tanks.

Saudi palace collapse kills 47

RIYADH (A.P.) — Forty-seven persons were killed in a palace collapse in the Saudi city of Taif, near Mecca, press reports said Sunday. The newspaper Al Riyadh said the incident occurred during a crowded wedding ceremony for a Yemeni couple at Kasr Al Afrah (Palace of Joys), with more than 500 guests attending. Number of injured was not given, but the paper said they will be given. The incident is said to have been caused by a lack of structural support. The paper said the building had been designed to withstand an earthquake of magnitude 7.5 on the Richter scale. The building had been completed in 1979 and was the largest in the world at the time of its completion. The paper said the building had been designed to withstand an earthquake of magnitude 7.5 on the Richter scale. The building had been completed in 1979 and was the largest in the world at the time of its completion.

Lambdorff meets Mubarak in Cairo

CAIRO (A.P.) — The West German Economic Minister Otto Lambdorff met with President Hosni Mubarak Sunday and afterwards said he hoped for increased economic cooperation between Germany and Egypt, the government news agency said.

The German minister told reporters in front of the Uruba Palace that Egypt's needs had first priority in the German aid programme, and that private and joint-venture investment projects would be increased, the agency said.

Numeiri sends note to Egyptian leader

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Young Eritrean commandos in training

Williams asks for black killings retrial

ATLANTA (R) — Lawyers for convicted murderer Wayne Williams have asked the judge to overturn the verdict and order a new trial for the man found guilty of killing two of 28 young blacks whose deaths terrorised Atlanta's black community. His lawyer said the appeals process would begin on Monday when the judge returns from a week's holiday. The local county Sheriff has said Mr. Williams is expected to remain in the county jail for at least six years before the appeals process is exhausted. Mr. Williams, 23, a freelance photographer and music promoter, was found guilty last month and sentenced to two life terms for the murders.